No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/04/28 : LOC-HAK-265-2-44-7

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK139//

TO ADAMS/BARBIAN/ROOMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

UNCLAS WH51764

TOHAK139

SEPTEMBER 3, 1975
MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

THE WASHINGTON POST
SPENCER RICH REPORTS THAT PRESIDENT FORD'S NEW SINAI PEACE PLAN AND THE OLD CONTROVERSY OVER DECONTROLLING OIL PRICES WILL BE THE ISSUES OF OVERRIDING URGENCY WHEN CONGRESS CONVENES TODAY AFTER ITS MONTH LONG AUGUST RECESS. ALTHOUGH SENATE MAJORITY LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD CONTINUED YESTERDAY TO OPPOSE STATIONING UP TO 200 AMERICAN TECHNICIANS IN THE SINAI TO MONITOR THE EGYPT-ISRAEL PEACE LINE, THERE APPEARS TO BE SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT ELSEWHERE ON CAPITOL HILL FOR THE MIDEAST PLAN, PROVIDED IT IS ACCOMPANIED BY ABSOLUTE GUARANTEES AGAINST A DIRECT U.S. MILITARY COMMITMENT. (A-1)

PETER OSNOS SAYS THE SOVIET UNION IS SHIFTING ITS PUBLIC STANCE ON EVENTS IN PORTUGAL AWAY FROM THE SUPPORT IT HAD BEEN GIVING TO A BROAD ALLIANCE OF LEFT-WING FORCES AND TOWARD EXPLICIT BACKING OF THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY. THAT MOVE HAS MAJOR IMPLICATIONS FOR SOVIET STRATEGY IN EUROPE, WHERE MOSCOW'S PROSELETYZING ON BEHALF OF LOCAL COMMUNISTS HAS ALWAYS BEEN DISTINCTLY CAUTIOUS. IT ALSO POSES A PROBLEM FOR SOVIET-U.S. RELATIONS AS THE SUPERPOWERS TRADE WARNINGS ABOUT INTERFERENCE IN PORTUGAL'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THE DANGERS TO DETENTE. (A-1)

MURREY MARDER BELIEVES A COMPROMISE IN BACKSTAGE ADMINISTRATION FEUDING OVER A NEW PANAMA CANAL TREATY, AND THE POSTPONEMENT OF A SENATE FIGHT TODAY OVER FUNDS TO NEGOTIATE, TEMPORARILY HAVE EASED ACUTE TENSION IN ONE OF WASHINGTON'S

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OLDEST DISPUTES. NUMEROUS VERY COMPLEX ISSUES INVOLVING LAND AND WATER RIGHTS REMAIN TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH PANAMA, U.S. OFFICIALS EMPHASIZED. THEY RANGE FROM USE OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS TO BOWLING ALLEYS AND GOLF COURSES IN THE 550-SQUARE-MILE CANAL ZONE. (A-3)

JOHN SAAR FINDS THAT THE U.S. IS FACED WITH TWO UNPLEASANT REALITIES ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA: THE CONSTANT POSSIBILITY OF MILITARY ACTION BY NORTH KOREA'S INTRANSIGENT AND UNPREDICTABLE PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG, AND THE DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH KOREA OF A STYLE OF GOVERNMENT INIMICAL TO AMERICAN IDEALS. THE FORD ADMINISTRATION'S CLEAR CHOICE HAS BEEN TO REAFFIRM THE DEFENSE COMMITMENT TO SOUTH KOREA LOUD AND OFTEN, AND TO ACCORD SECOND PRIORITY TO THE ISSUE OF CIVIL RIGHTS WITHIN KOREA. (A-9)

BERNARD D. NOSSITER REPORTS THAT THE SLAUGHTER OF FOUR PROTESTANTS MIGHT BREAK NEW GROUND IN THE BLOODSTAINED POLITICS OF ULSTER. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE INTERMITTENT SECTARIAN CIVIL WAR WAS RENEWED SIX YEARS AGO, CATHOLIC TERRORISTS HAVE FIRED INDISCRIMINATELY ON A CROWD DISTINGUISHED ONLY BY THE FACT THAT THEY WERE PROTESTANT. SOME OBSERVERS IN ULSTER CONCLUDE THAT A VIOLENT CAMPAIGN FOR TERRITORY HAS BEGUN. (A-9)

YUVAL ELIZUR REPORTS THAT ISRAEL'S MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES STRONGLY ENDORSED THE INTERIM SINAI WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT THUS PAVING THE WAY FOR ITS ADOPTION BY A COMFORTABLE MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT. INDICATIONS WERE THAT THE PACT WILL BE SUPPORTED BY 65 MEMBERS WITH 45 AGAINST AND THE REST ABSTAINING -- A SIGNIFICANT SHIFT FROM THE NARROW MAJORITY PREDICTED LAST MONTH. (A-12)

MARILYN BERGER WRITES THAT TO REACH THE SINAI WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT INITIALED MONDAY, ISRAEL GAVE UP SOME LAND AND SOME OIL. EGYPT GAVE A FEW PROMISES AND THE U.S. PROVIDED THE CATALYTIC ELEMENTS THAT MADE IT POSSIBLE -- AMERICAN TECHNICIANS IN THE SINAI MOUNTAIN PASSES AND AMERICAN MONEY, WHICH ADD UP TO A NEW LEVEL OF AMERICAN COMMITMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WITHOUT THESE CRITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS THERE COULD HAVE BEEN NO DEAL. IF IT DOES INDEED OPEN NEW AVENUES TO PEACE, THE NEW ARRANGEMENT COULD AMOUNT TO MORE THAN IT APPEARS TO ON THE SURFACE. REAL PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST CAN HARDLY BE ATTAINED AT THE SNAIL'S PACE OF SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY. NONE OF THIS MEANS THAT WAR IS NEAR ANY MORE THAN THAT PEACE HAS COME. SADAT'S MESSAGE TO OTHER ARABS IS TO TRUST THE U.S., WHICH OFFERS SOMETHING IF THEY ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT THE SLOW PACE. BUT CRITICS SAY THE DIPLOMACY OF SMALL STEPS IS ONLY PUTTING OFF THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS

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UNTIL A TIME WHEN BOTH SIDES IN THE MIDDLE EAST WILL BE ARMED WITH MORE SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS. AND THE LATEST PARTIAL ACCORD PUTS THE AMERICANS MORE FIRMLY IN THE MIDDLE THAN EVER BEFORE. (A-13)

YOU ARE PICTURED LISTENING WHILE PRESIDENT SADAT ADDRESSES REPORTERS MONDAY IN ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT ON PAGE A-13.

JONATHAN C. RANDAL SAYS THAT THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN A DISCREET SILENCE TODAY ON THE NEW ISRAEL-EGYPT ACCORD, BUT THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD MAY SOON SEEK TO OPEN TALKS ON A SIMILAR AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL THROUGH YOUR AUSPICES. OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT SYRIA HAS THE POWER TO MAKE OR BREAK NOT ONLY THE NEW SETTLEMENT ON THE ISRAEL-EGYPTIAN FRONT BUT ALSO ANY FURTHER ACCORDS YOU MAY TRY TO FASHION ENROUTE TO A FINAL MIDDLE EAST AGREEMENT. ASSAD'S WILLINGNESS IS THOUGHT TO BE BASED ON A DESIRE TO MATCH SADAT'S ACHIEVEMENT SO HE COULD ENTER NEGOTIATIONS FOR ANY OVERALL MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT ON AN EQUAL BASIS WITH THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT. (A-13)

THE LEAD EDITORIAL IS ENTITLED "THE MIDEAST: A CHANCE FOR PEACE." IT IS IDLE TO SPECULATE ABOUT WHICH PARTY GOT THE BETTER OF AN INTRICATE THREE-CORNERED DEAL WHICH COMBINES ISRAELI TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS WITH EGYPTIAN POLITICAL COMMITMENTS AND AMERICAN PLEDGES OF MILITARY AND/OR ECONOMIC AID TO BOTH PARTIES. SIMILARLY, IT WOULD BE SILLY FOR ANYBODY TO BE IMPRESSED, AT THIS STAGE, BY THE PRESIDENT'S LOOSE RESORT TO SUPERLATIVES. THERE WILL BE AMPLE TIME FOR HISTORY TO JUDGE WHETHER THIS ACCORD, WHICH DIFFERS ONLY IN DEGREE FROM THE EARLIER DISENGAGEMENTS ON BOTH THE SYRIAN AND THE EGYPTIAN FRONTS, ISA "GREAT ACHIEVEMENT, ONE OF THE MOST HISTORIC, CERTAINLY OF THIS DECADE AND PERHAPS IN THIS COUNTRY," AS MR. FORD WOULD HAVE US ALL BELIEVE. "THE CONSEQUENCES OF STALEMATE," YOU SAID, "ARE SIMPLY UNACCEPTABLE." WHAT YOU MIGHT HAVE ADDED IS THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF STALEMATE, AT ANY POINT SHORT OF A FINAL MIDEAST SETTLEMENT ARE UNACCEPTABLE. WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IS NO MORE THAN A THOROUGHLY WELCOME -- BUT TEMPORARY -- FORECLOSING OF AN INTOLERABLE ALTERNATIVE. AND WHAT HAS BEEN PROVIDED, AS YOU CORRECTLY STRESSED, IS NO MORE THAN A "CHANCE" FOR PEACE. (A-14)

THE OTHER EDITORIAL ADDRESSES A WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. A POLICY REVIEW WITHIN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS MADE PUBLIC IN A MAJOR ADDRESS GIVEN IN THE NAME OF THE ABSENT YOU AT THE UNGA ON MONDAY. YOU DID NOT ACCEPT THE THIRD WORLD'S DEMAND FOR A BLANKET REVISION OF THE "RULES" OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, BUT YOU DID SAY THE U.S. RECOGNIZES THAT MANY OF

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THE ECONOMIC GRIEVANCES OF THE POOR ARE LEGITIMATE AND DE-
SERVING OF TREATMENT IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN RICH AND POOR.
YOU DID AGREE TO BROADEN TRADITIONALLY WESTERN-ORENTED OR-
GANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND THE
WORLD BANK TO MAKE THEM MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE CLAIMS OF
THE POOR. IT IS COMFORTING TO THINK OF A WORLD IN WHICH
ALL NATIONS RECOGNIZE THAT BOTH NECESSITY AND CIVILITY COM-
MIT THEM TO POLICIES OF INTERDEPENDENCE. BUT DOMESTIC PO-
LITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL
CONSIDERATIONS AND NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND POLITTICAL IN-
TERESTS REGULARLY CUT ACROSS THE IMPERATIVES OF INTERDE-
PENDENCE. IN THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS VITAL TO MAINTAIN
AN ELEVATED BUT REASONABLE VISION OF A WORLD IN WHICH DIS-
PUTES AND CONFLICTING INTERESTS CAN BE WORKED OUT WITH
MINIMAL STRAIN. IF THAT IS NOT AN ENNOBLING GOAL, THEN
ITS IMPORTANCE IS UNDENIABLE: IT TOUCHES THE LIVES OF EVERY-
ONE IN THE WORLD. (A-14)

ROWLAND EVANS AND ROBERT NOVAK ENTITLE THIS ARTICLE "SALT
CONFRONTATION: JACKSON AND KISSINGER." WHEN YOU RETURN
FROM YOUR MIDEAST TRIUMPH, YOU WILL FIND ON YOUR DESK AN
EXTRAORDINARILY HARSH LETTER DEMANDING YOUR PRESENCE AT A
LONG-DELAYED CONFRONTATION WITH SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON
OVER SALT. THE LETTER CONCLUDES: "YOUR PERSISTENT FAILURE
TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE IN THE FACE OF SOVIET (MISSILE)
DEPLOYMENTS INCONSISTENT WITH YOUR ASSURANCES TO THE CONGRESS
(ABOUT SALT I AGREEMENT) RAISES SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT THE
MANNER IN WHICH THAT AGREEMENT WAS NEGOTIATED. THAT LEAVES
YOU WITH TWO UNATTRACTIVE OPTIONS: OPTION NUMBER ONE:
STONEWALL, IGNORING JACKSON'S LETTER. OPTION NUMBER TWO:
CAPITULATE, JOINING IN A CONFRONTATION WITH ALL ADVANTAGES
HELD BY JACKSON. EITHER OPTION GUARANTEES ESCALATION IN
THE POLITICAL DEBATE OVER DETENTE. WHILE YOU ARE INTENT ON
A SALT II AGREEMENT, PRESIDENT FORD IS FINDING DETENTE A
DIMINISHING POLITICAL ASSET. JACKSON'S LETTER LEAVES NO
DOUBT WHAT HE WANTS: "AS THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE ADMINI-
STRATION PRESENT AT THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE SALT I AGREE-
MENT...YOU ALONE ARE IN A POSITION TO TELL THE SUBCOMMITTEE
...WHY THE ADMINISTRATION HAS CHOSEN TO IGNORE ITS PLEDGE
TO REGARD THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE NEW SOVET SS-19 MISSILE
AS A HEAVY MISSILE AND THEREFORE ONE WHOSE DEPLOYMENT CON-
TRAVENES THE U.S. INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT." HOW
YOU REACT TO IT COULD CAST A LONG SHADOW OVER FUTURE PO-
LITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC EVENTS. (A-15)

DAVID VAN PRAAGH FINDS A NEW REALISM IS SETTLING ON ASIA,
WHICH LONG WAS DISTORTED IN ASIAN AS WELL AS AMERICAN EYES
BY THE VIETNAM. IT ALL COMES BACK TO THE RICE FARMER,
WHETHER IN CHAINAT OR CHINA OR THE CAUVERY DELTA IN INDIA,

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AND WHETHER OR NOT HE GETS A SQUARE DEAL AND THE FOOD HE GROWS IS SOLD AT A FAIR PRICE. ONLY ON SUCH A REALISTIC BASE CAN ASIAN NATIONS BE EXPECTED TO GROW AND PROSPER. (A-15)

THE NEW YORK TIMES
KATHLEEN TELTSCH REPORTS THAT IRAN, STUNG BY U.S. CRITICISMS OF THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES, GAVE A SKEPTICAL RESPONSE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY YESTERDAY TO YOUR NEW PROPOSALS FOR BRIDGING THE ECONOMIC GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES. "PROPOSALS MAY APPEAR BRILLIANT ON PAPER BUT WHEN AND HOW THEY ARE IMPLEMENTED, THAT IS THE QUESTION," JAMSHID AMOUZEGAR, IRANIAN MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, TOLD THE SPECIAL ASSEMBLY SESSION ON ECONOMIC MATTERS. THE PREVAILING MOOD OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CONTINUED TO BE FAVORABLE TO THE STATEMENT BY YOU. (1)

EDWIN L. DALE, JR. WRITES THAT THE U.S. -- WITH LITTLE OVERT SUPPORT FROM THE OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES -- EMPHASIZED YESTERDAY THAT ANOTHER INCREASE IN THE WORLD PRICE OF OIL "WOULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE THE BALANCE UPON WHICH GLOBAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY DEPENDS." THE OCCASION WAS THE ADDRESS BY WILLIAM E. SIMON TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK. (1)

HENRY TANNER WRITES THAT PRESIDENT SADAT ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT HE WOULD FLY TO WASHINGTON LATE NEXT MONTH FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT FORD TO FOLLOW UP THE CONCLUSION OF A SECOND-STAGE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT IN SINAI. IN A TALK WITH LEADING EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPER EDITORS IN ALEXANDRIA, MR. SADAT AGAIN PRAISED MR. FORD AND YOU FOR THE ROLES YOU HAVE PLAYED IN BRINGING ABOUT THE NEW AGREEMENT AND ADDED THAT HE WAS DETERMINED TO PRESS FOR OTHER PEACE STEPS ON OTHER FRONTS, NOTABLY IN SYRIA. (1)

NICHOLAS M. HORROCK REPORTS THAT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT ORDERED THE U.S. MILITARY ATTACHE IN CHILE TO GIVE STRONG COVERT SUPPORT TO AN OCTOBER, 1970, PLAN FOR A MILITARY COUP AIMED AT KEEPING SALVADOR ALLENDE OUT OF THE CHILEAN PRESIDENCY, SOURCES FAMILIAR WITH THE OPERATION REPORTED TODAY. (3)

DREW MIDDLETON SAYS THAT THE EMPHASIS IN THE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT ON EARLY-WARNING SYSTEMS IN THE SINAI PENINSULA HAS FOCUSED ATTENTION ON NEW DIMENSIONS OF WEAPONRY, AMONG THEM DEVICES THAT ENABLE RADAR TO PEER BEYOND THE HORIZON OR HELICOPTER-BORNE "PEOPLE SNIFFERS" TO DETECT A SWEATING INFANTRY PLATOON MOVING TO ATTACK. THESE AND OTHER SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS, PIONEERED BY THE U.S. IN THE

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VIETNAM WAR, ARE COUPLED IN MODERN MILITARY TECHNOLOGY WITH THE EXPANDING FIELD OF ELECTRONIC WEAPONS. (4)

HENRY KAMM REPORTS THAT DEFENSE MINISTER PERES, SAID YESTERDAY THAT AT BEST NEGOTIATIONS WITH SYRIA WERE MONTHS OFF AND A RESOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE "A MATTER OF YEARS AND YEARS." "I WILL SAY THE A GATE WAS OPENED," MR PERES SAID ABOUT THE AGREEMENT. "THERE IS A HORIZON SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY. AND BETWEEN THE GATE AND THE HORIZON THERE IS A VERY LONG WAY TO GO, WHICH IS UNMARKED AND UNKNOWN TO BOTH SIDES." (5)

PAUL HOFMANN WRITES THAT THE UN WAS KEPT ON THE SIDELINES DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT LED TO THE INITIALING OF THE AGREEMENTS ON DISENGAGEMENT IN THE SINAI DESERT. BUT IT WILL HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN CARRYING THEM OUT, AND THE ACCORDS WILL PROBABLY COME UNDER REVIEW BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. (6)

BERNARD GWERTZMAN SAYS THAT YOU RECEIVED SAUDI ARABIA'S ENDORSEMENT OF THE NEW EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI AGREEMENT YESTERDAY. ALTHOUGH SAUDI ARABIA HAS CONSISTENTLY BACKED YOUR STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH, YOU AND YOUR TOP AIDES WERE APPREHENSIVE BEFORE THE TALKS IN TAIF ABOUT THE REACTION OF KING KHALID AND CROWN PRINCE FAHD. (7)

AN EDITORIAL STATES THAT A HALF-YEAR AFTER YOUR FAILURE LAST MARCH, YOU HAVE SUCCEEDED IN NEGOTIATING AN ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN-AMERICAN PACKAGE AIMED AT REDUCING TENSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IF THE COMPLEX OF AGREEMNTS INVOLVED IS APPROVED AND CARRIED OUT IN GOOD FAITH BY ALL PARTIES, IT COULD BE A HISTORIC STEP TOWARD LASTING PEACE IN THIS STRATEGIC AND VOLATILE REGION. ALREADY VOICES OPPOSING THE AGREEMENTS ARE BEING HEARD IN ISRAEL, IN THE ARAB WORLD OUTSIDE EGYPT AND IN WASHINGTON, VOICES THAT TESTIFY TO THE FRAGILITY OF THE EQUILIBRIUM THAT HAS BEEN CREATED AND TO THE DIFFICULTIES IN THE WAY OF GENUINE STABILITY. BY THE SAME TOKEN THE VERY INTENSITY OF THE DEBATE TESTIFIES TO THE MAGNITUDE OF THIS ACHIEVEMENT. THE ISRAELIS HAVE THE PROMISE OF FURTHER SUBSTANTIAL AMERICAN AID, PLUS THE DIRECT INVOLVEMENT OF U.S. CIVILIANS IN SURVEILLANCE OF ARMED FORCES MOVEMENTS, A WATCH INTENDED TO HELP KEEP THE PEACE. FOR EGYPT, THE ISRAELI TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS REPRESENT TANGIBLE PROOF THAT THE POLICY OF COOPERATING WITH THE U.S.CAN BRING TANGIBLE BENEFITS. BUT, THOUGH HE AND HIS COUNTRY ARE SO OBVIOUSLY THE BIG IMMEDIATE GAINERS FROM YOUR PACKAGE, PRESIDENT SADAT IS WELL AWARE THAT AMONG THE LIBYANS, PALESTINIAN TERRORISTS AND OTHERS IN THE ARAB WORLD HIS AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL IS VIEWED AS BETRAYAL, WITH ALL THE PERSONAL AND INSTITUTIONAL RISKS THAT ENTAILS. (34)

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ANOTHER EDITORIAL STATES FOR AMERICANS, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT IS THE SIZABLE NEW AND STILL ONLY PARTLY REVEALED DEGREE OF DIRECT U.). INVOLVEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. ALREADY SOME CONGRESSMEN -- STILL UNDER THE SHOCK OF VIETNAM -- ARE PROTESTING THE PLANNED STATIONING OF 200 AMERICANS IN THE SINAI MOUNTAIN PASSES AS THE BEGINNING OF A MAJOR AND POSSIBLY DANGEROUS MILITARY OBLIGATION. THERE IS PLAIN NEED FOR FULL DISCLOSURE AND DISCUSSION OF WHATEVER OBLIGATIONS THE U.S. IS UNDERTAKING IN THE NEW MIDDLE EAST ARRANGEMENT, OVER AND BEYOND THOSE PROPERLY ASSIGNED TO THE UN. NEVERTHELESS, THERE IS UNQUESTIONABLE JUSTIFICATION FOR THE SATISFACTION THE PRESIDENT AND YOU TAKE IN THIS MAJOR DIPLOMATIC ACHIEVEMENT. THE NEED FOR EXHAUSTIVE EXAMINATION ON CAPITOL HILL DOES NOT DIMINISH THE FORWARD THRUST THAT THIS PACT SHOULD PROVIDE TO FURTHER MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE IN THE WORLD'S MOST STRATEGIC AREA. THOSE WHO CHALLENGE ITS BASIC PROVISIONS WILL BE UNDER HEAVY COMPULSION TO INDICATE WHAT PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE THEY HAVE FOR INSURING EVENTUAL MIDEAST STABILITY AND PEACE. (34)

JAMES RESTON WRITES THAT ALMOST EVERYBODY SEEMS TO HAVE A COMPLAINT ABOUT AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY THESE DAYS -- OFTEN WITH GOOD REASON -- BUT THE CRITICS HAVE A PROBLEM. FOR NO NATION IN THE WORLD, DESPITE VIETNAM, HAS BEEN MORE GENEROUS OR IMAGINATIVE IN TRYING TO DEAL WITH THE INTRACTABLE PROBLEMS OF THE WORLD THAN THE U.)., AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S CRITICS HAVE SO FAR PUT UP NO BETTER ALTERNATIVE. YOUR LATEST EFFORT TO BUY PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND YOUR APPEALS AT THE UN FOR THE POOR AND HUNGRY NATIONS, ARE ONLY THE LATEST SYMBOLS OF WASHINGTON'S YEARNING FOR A NEW WORLD ORDER. (FULL TEXT TO FOLLOW) (35)

THE BALTIMORE SUN
AP REPORTS THE CHIEF OF THE PORTUGUESE ARMY JOINED THE AIR FORCE COMMANDER YESTERDAY IN STRONGLY OPPOSING THE APPOINTMENT OF PROCOMMUNIST GENERAL VASCO GONCALVES AS COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORCES. GENERAL CARLOS FABIAO, THE ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF, SAID GENERAL GONCALVES WAS THE CAUSE OF DISUNITY IN THE ARMY. (A-1)

ACCORDING TO EDWARD K. HU, PHAM VAN DONG, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE PREMIER, TOLD A GRAND RALLY IN HANOI MARKING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE YESTERDAY THAT NORTH VIETNAM IS READY TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND LOOKS FORWARD TO A FAVORABLE AMERICAN RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL. (A-1)

ART PINE WRITES THAT THE U.S. AND FRANCE INDICATED YESTERDAY

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THAT THERE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY NO MOVEMENT IN THEIR STALEMATE OVER FLOATING EXCHANGE RATES -- TEMPERING NEW OPTIMISM ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR A COMPROMISE AGREEMENT NEXT JANUARY. UNLESS THE EXCHANGE-RATE QUESTION IS RESOLVED, THE SETTLEMENTS FINANCE MINISTERS REACHED LAST WEEKEND ON GOLD AND OTHER ISSUES WOULD SIMPLY BE ABORTED. THE AGREEMENTS WERE CONTINGENT ON APPROVAL OF A COMPROMISE AT A MEETING IN JANUARY. (A-2)

GENE OTSHI REVEALS THAT THE WEST GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTRY CONFIRMED YESTERDAY THAT THE U.S. WANTS TO WITHDRAW SOME OF ITS NIKE-HERCULES ANTIAIRCRAFT MISSILE BATTERIES CURRENTLY IN WEST GERMANY, BUT SAID THE MATTER WAS STILL BEING NEGOTIATED. (A-2)

PRESIDENT ISABEL PERON OF ARGENTINA SAID YESTERDAY SHE INTENDS TO REMAIN IN OFFICE BUT WOULD GIVE UP HER POST AS CHIEF OF THIS TROUBLED NATION IF THE PEOPLE FEEL SHE SHOULD GO. (A-5)

IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL, THE SUN PRAISES YOUR NEGOTIATING EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND SAYS THE AGREEMENT THAT ISRAEL AND EGYPT HAVE REACHED IS A TRIBUTE TO YOUR PRESERVERENCE IN SEEKING IT. IT IS AN INTRICATE ARRANGEMENT, BUT IT IS NOT, ON THE BASIS OF WHAT HAS BEEN DIVULGED, AN AMERICAN GUARANTEE OF THE TERMS, OR A COMMITMENT TO INTERVENE IN THE EVENT OF BREAKDOWN. THIS AGREEMENT DESERVES THE EXHAUSTIVE PUBLIC SCRUTINY IT WILL RECEIVE IN ISRAEL'S KNESSET AND IN THE U.S. CONGRESS. ANYONE WHO OBSTRUCTS ITS APPROVAL IN EITHER OF THOSE PLACES, HOWEVER, WILL BEAR A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY AND NEED TO SHOW EXCEEDINGLY GOOD JUSTIFICATION. (A-14)
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